

A BRIEF HISTORY OF EARTH DAY

EARTH DAY is intended to inspire awareness of and appreciation for the Earth's environment. It is a tradition that was founded by peace activist John McConnell and by U.S. Senator Gaylord Nelson in 1969.

Earth Day was conceived by Senator Gaylord Nelson and his assistant Denis Hayes after a trip they took to Santa Barbara following the horrific oil spill off our coast in 1969. They were so outraged by what they saw that upon returning to Washington, Senator Nelson passed a bill designating April 22 as a national day to celebrate the Earth. It was in the wake of this same tragedy that the Community Environmental Council was born and began working on ways to clean up our natural resources. It is due to these events that Santa Barbara is considered the birthplace of the environmental movement.

The first Earth Day was celebrated in 1970 and has been celebrated every year since.

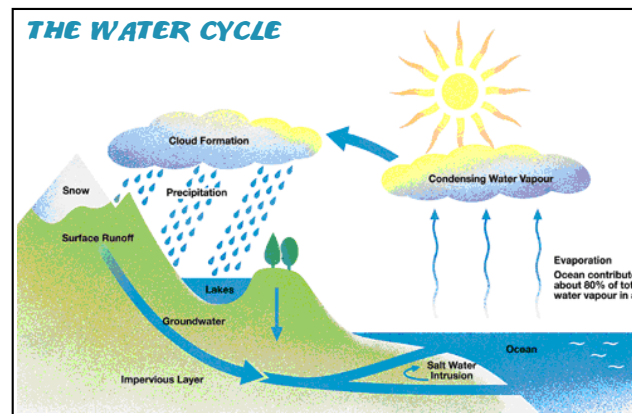
EARTH DAY EXHIBIT AT POMONA CITY HALL

APRIL 20 - 24
(near the Information Center)

On Earth Day, April 22, 9am - 3pm, please come to the exhibit to learn more about protecting our Earth!

STORMWATER RUNOFF AND POLLUTION

"Stormwater" is a term used to describe water that originates during rainy weather events. Stormwater that does not soak into the ground becomes surface runoff, which flows into the surface waterways such as street gutters and storm drain systems, into flood control channels, and ultimately into the OCEAN!



One of the major reasons we are concerned about stormwater is that it can gather pollutants such as oil, grease, metals, pesticides and bacteria as it travels across the land into the ocean.

SOURCES OF POLLUTION:

Fertilizers, Pesticides, Bacteria, Pet Wastes, Motor Oil, Trash and Debris



HOW YOU CAN HELP

Don't put anything in storm drains.

Don't throw litter into the street.



Dry sweep your driveways to clean and clear debris, instead of hosing it down.

Pick up after your pet(s).

Use yard waste as mulch, as natural fertilizer, or as ground cover.

Grasscycle! Grasscycling is simply leaving grass clippings on the lawn when mowing, which will help reduce waste while keeping your lawn healthy.

Do not apply pesticides or fertilizers before it rains. Read the label and apply as recommended.

Recycle your motor oil.



Use double-sided photocopies to save trees.

Don't use harsh, abrasive or toxic chemicals around the house. Select water-based products over solvent-based products when available (e.g. paint, glue, shoe polish).

Recycle household wastes in your color coded containers.

